and tried to obtain terms whenever possible and found Dada's terms more favourable. So you will see that the second year's price is cheaper than the first. All these were placed on the Table. In the third year prices were still cheaper. All were placed on the Table last time—as many catalogues as were available with which comparisons were made.

Mr. A. B. Salem.—I did not ask about catalogues. I only asked about the comparative statement of medicines.

Diwan Bahadur Dr. V. Verghese.—All those statements are lost.

Mr. A. B. Salem.—Now the Member in charge says that he compared with other catalogues. There must be a statement in the office for comparison.

President.—Is there any such statement kept in the office?

Diwan Bahadur Dr. V. Verghese.—When I made comparison, I must have made statement sufficient to convince me that I could not get cheaper rates, but these notes have not been preserved.

Mr. A B. Salem.—What is the difficulty in making the statements ?

Diwan Bahadur Dr V. Verghese.—It takes time and labour now to prepare them.

Mr. A. B. Salem.—There is the invoice for that and there is the price list. It is only when it is compared that the result will be found in some places. What is the laborious work, I don't see.

President —We are passing into other regions, into the regions of specialists.

60. Mr. A. B. Salem.—Will the Government be pleased to state:—

(1) whether before the last Budget Session Mr. S. Koder had sent in a tender for the supply of medicines to the Medical Department; and if so, whether the same was scrutinised by the Chief Medical and Sanitary Officer to see how it compared with the prices that were charged by Messrs. Dada & Co.;

(2) will the Government be pleased to state by name or by office the person in the Medical Department who has been checking the prices of medicines charged by Messrs. Dada & Co., during the last three years in the Office of the Chief Medical and Sanitary Officer;

(3) whether the relative English and Continental price lists were made available to that officer for comparing the prices charged by Dada & Co , with the European prices ;

(4) will the Government be pleased to state whether Messrs. Ferris & Co., Ltd., who have been supplying medicines and instruments to the Cochin State were not informed by the

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Chief Medical and Sanitary Officer that he was only making an experiment to see whether medicines, etc., could be had cheaper from Dada & Co., and that he has not completely given up the idea of placing the orders with them after the experiment;

(5) whether the experiment resulted in favour of Dada & Co., or in favour of Ferris & Co., Ltd.;

(6) whether the Chief Medical and Sanitary Officer was requested by Ferris & Co., Ltd., to send the invoices of the Indian Firms that offered to supply Western medicines at cheaper rates than what they could do in order to send the Chief Medical and Sanitary Officer an analysed comparative list to satisfy the Chief Medical and Sanitary Officer that no Indian Firm could supply Western medicines manufactured and prepared in Europe at cheaper rates than what they could do;

(7) whether the Chief Medical and Sanitary Officer sent these invoices to them as requested by them; and if not, why not; and if he did send them, what is the result;

(8) will the Government be pleased to inform whether any invoice of medicines supplied by Dada & Co., were forwarded by the Chief Medical and Sanitary Officer to Mr. S. Koder or the Hon'ble Member for Mattancheri;

(9) whether the invoice prices were compared with the relative prices of Burgoyne & Co., Ltd.;

(10) whether the Chief Medical and Sanitary Officer was informed of the result of the comparison by Mr. Koder, and if so,

(11) will the Government be pleased to state what the result found by the comparison of the invoice with the relative pricesis?

Diwan Bahadur Dr. V. Verghese.—Vide answer to question No. 171 of the last Legislative Session of Vrischigam 1104.

Amounts spent by Government; Questions and Resolutions.

601. Mr. A. B. Salem.—Will the Government be pleased to inform:—

(1) the amount of money authorised by the Diwan to be spent as essential to the discharge of the reponsibilities of Government under section 16 (8) of the Cochin Legislative Council Regulation since the opening of the Legislative Council, viz., from 3rd of April 1925 to the 1st of September 1928;

(2) the total amount of money authorised to be spent by the Government under section 16 (9) during the period mentioned in the question (1) supra in the various departments;

(3) (i) a) the total number of questions put by Members;

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